

Betty Shabazz epitomizes the strength, tenacity, confidence, compassion, and fidelity of a progressive Black woman. Early in my career, I met her on several occasions, and she gave great guidance on how to be proactive, detail specific and plan for the unexpected. As a young woman, Shabazz left Detroit to study at the Tuskegee Institute, the renowned historic black college in Alabama. She later went to New York, where she became a registered nurse.

In New York, Shabazz was introduced to the Nation of Islam and its founder Elijah Muhammad. It was in 1956 that Betty X met Malcolm X, then a rising star in the Nation of Islam. Two years later they married, and within 5 years, they had four daughters. After breaking off from the Nation of Islam in 1964, Malcolm and Betty X adopted the Muslim surname Shabazz.

In early 1965, Malcolm was gunned down while speaking at the Audubon Ballroom in Harlem. Betty Shabazz, pregnant with twins, was in the audience with their daughters when one of the greatest Civil Rights Leaders of our time was murdered. Betty raised their six daughters alone, returned to school, and in 1975 earned a doctorate in education from the University of Massachusetts. She went to work as an administrator at Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn while carrying out an effort to inform people around the world about civil and human rights and racial tolerance.

In a sudden and tragic twist of fate, the world lost a great champion and voice. In June of 1997, Betty Shabazz passed away at 61 from third-degree burns that ravaged over 80 percent of her body. This was a tragic ending to an extraordinary life.

For all of her honest criticism and constructive praise, I thank her and honor her. Betty Shabazz was a true womanist, activist, and leader. I owe her a great debt of gratitude and in the years to come will continue to work to preserve her memory.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN HEIN

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in tribute to a man with a distinguished public service career. Throughout the course of his career, John Hein has served the people of California, especially its school children, with great success and distinction. John recently retired from his position as the Associate Executive Director for the California Teachers Association. It is my honor to ask all my colleagues to join me in saluting John Hein, a tireless and passionate advocate for public education in California.

John Hein has undoubtedly been one of California's most effective education reformers and loyal supporters of public education in recent history. John possesses the necessary work ethic and conviction to successfully represent and advance the interests of California's 6.5 million school children. John's remarkable track record in moving an extraordinary agenda for California's school children is almost unparalleled anywhere in the field of education.

John's insight and perseverance were instrumental in negotiating a settlement in the

California Teachers Association v. Gould lawsuit that resulted in the largest decrease in class size in the history of California. John's masterful handling of this settlement also produced the largest financial commitment to instructional materials for each student in every subject, as well as the largest increase in professional development opportunities for classroom teachers in the Nation.

Aside from being an astute negotiator, John was also a skilled organizer of a number of important public campaigns. John was a major organizer in a mass demonstration of teachers and other supporters of public education that played a big part in a \$2 billion increase in general revenues to the public schools. To this day, this change in policy remains the largest single increase in school funding in the history of California. Driven by a deep commitment to increased local funding for public schools, John played a vital role in the successful effort to reduce the vote threshold for local school bonds from two-thirds to 55 percent. Passage of this measure resulted in a \$26 billion increase in state funding for new and rehabilitated schools. John also lent his considerable talents to the fight against school vouchers. John was able to bring together a massive statewide coalition that delivered a resounding defeat to the voucher movement in California and across the nation. Time and time again, John has proven that he is one of the greatest friends of public education in California.

John's relentless dedication to public education and his strong leadership have made the California Teacher's Association one of the most powerful organizations to lobby on behalf of public education and associated issues in the country. Under John's leadership, the California Teachers Association crafted the most rigorous academic standards in the nation, a new statewide testing system, a new school facilities law and other major education reforms.

A man of many talents and considerable energy, John's leadership in California went well beyond public education issues. John has served on the executive boards of campaigns that sought to protect affirmative action, racial data collection, bilingual education, and immigrants' rights in California. John's commitment to public service has enabled him to make a positive contribution to the lives of all Californians.

Mr. Speaker, as John Hein embarks on an exciting new chapter of his life, I am honored to pay tribute to a great champion of public education in California. The people of California have benefited greatly from John's leadership and we all owe him a debt of gratitude. I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing John continued success in all of his future endeavors, wherever retirement may lead him.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF WHITE ROCK LAKE

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, as the U.S. Congressman representing White Rock Lake in Dallas, I would like to recognize the

invaluable contribution made by the young men of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) to the development of White Rock Lake.

With the dedication of the new CCC statue at White Rock Lake Park, we honor the lasting contribution of the approximately 3,000 young men who, over the course of seven years, spent six months to two years learning a trade and performing a valuable public service.

These young men labored diligently, making a host of improvements to White Rock Lake, including deepening and widening the lake, constructing, clearing underbrush, and building bridle paths, trails, picnic grounds, barbecue pits, shelter houses, thousands of feet of retaining walls and planting hundreds of pecan trees. One of their major accomplishments was the creation of the park at Flag Pole Hill, which we still enjoy today.

Today, I recognize the "boys in green" from the CCC Camp at White Rock Lake and thank them for their hard work as we dedicate a new statue in Sunset Bay to honor the outstanding contribution they made in helping build our community.

TRIBUTE TO ALDEN B. DOW OF MIDLAND, MICHIGAN—100TH BIRTH YEAR COMMEMORATION

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Alden B. Dow.

In 2004, the city of Midland, Michigan will be holding a year-long celebration to honor the life and accomplishments of Alden B. Dow entitled "The Quality of Life—The Influence of Alden B. Dow."

Born in Midland on April 10, 1904, Dow's leadership and architectural ingenuity served as inspiration to his community. Trained at Columbia University's School of Architecture, Dow completed over 520 projects throughout his fifty-year career, each focusing on a theme of individuality. He designed homes throughout the United States, including World War II housing for the Department of Defense in Brazoria, Texas. He also designed the entire town of Lake Jackson, Texas during the same period. In addition to housing, Alden Dow also designed colleges, hospitals, and community buildings. His design of the First United Methodist Church in Midland won the Eighth Annual National Honor Awards of the American Institute of Architecture in 1958, and was the only religious structure to receive such an award. Dow has also received such honors as honorary degrees from various colleges and universities, and was a Fellow for the American Institute of Architects. He served as president of the Michigan Society of Architects in 1949, winning the organization's gold medal in 1960. He was also a recipient of the Frank Lloyd Wright creativity award in 1982, and in 1983, Dow was honored as Michigan's only Architect Laureate.

I am honored today to recognize, along with the city of Midland, Michigan, the accomplishments of Alden B. Dow and his life contributions during this celebration.